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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Ministry of Agriculture (Ministerstwo Rolnictwa - MR) was located in Warsaw at 37 Krucza Street in a new modern six-story building which was not yet completely finished. The western part of the building was occupied by the Ministry of State Farms (Ministerstwo Panstwowych Gospodarstw Rolnych - MPGR) and the whole sixth floor was occupied by the Central Agricultural Equipment Supply Office (Centrala Zaopatrzenia Rolnictwa - CZR).
2. The Ministry of Agriculture was responsible for the implementation of general agricultural policies in conformance with Communist theory and the general directives of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party (PZPR). In pursuing these policies the ministry was entrusted with two main tasks: to supervise the (a) structural and (b) economic development of agriculture according to established long term plans.
3. The task of the structural development of agriculture, as it was called, consisted of promoting the gradual transfer of individual private farms to production cooperatives, i.e., collectivization and the so-called socialization of rural areas. The economic development of agriculture was concerned with increasing the general production of grain and livestock through mechanization, electrification, and an overall improvement of husbandry. In fulfilling these tasks the Ministry of Agriculture had to assure the country of a sufficient supply of agricultural products and meat as well as somehow managing to release a considerable number of workers for industry.

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4. As far as the general agricultural policy was concerned, the Ministry of Agriculture also supervised, to some extent, the two other ministries closely connected with and responsible for specific agricultural tasks, the Ministry of State Farms, and the Ministry for Purchases and Contracts (Ministerstwo Skupu i Kontraktacji). It should be mentioned that these two ministries were created from two central administrative offices formerly under the Ministry of Agriculture.
5. The organizational structure of the Ministry of Agriculture was established by internal directives of the ministry. (See chart, page 13, for organization of ministry as of spring 1954.) Edmund Pszczolkowski, former director of the agricultural department of the Central Committee of PZPR, has been Minister of Agriculture since April 1954.
6. The minister was individually responsible for the activities of the ministry and in particular for the execution of the short and long term plans. He directed the ministry and the subordinated establishments and institutes through four vice-ministers and some departments directly subordinate to him. The most important matters were referred to a ministerial committee called "college" (Kolegium) which was convoked at least once a month. It was a consulting body composed of all vice-ministers, directors of departments, and higher employees of the ministry, usually prominent specialists in various fields, who held the official title of "Adviser to the Minister" (Doradca Ministra). Sometimes the representatives of subordinate establishments or institutes participated. The college was convoked to analyze and to evaluate economic plans and their implementation and to give or hear reports on special problems in agriculture. The procedures of the meetings and the conclusions reached were recorded and later dispatched to all departments concerned. When pertinent, extracts were sometimes sent to the subordinate establishments. Usually the minister or one of the vice-ministers acted as chairman. The minister, however, was not formally bound by the conclusions of the ministerial college and could refuse its advice. However, on most occasions, the minister as chairman summed up the final conclusions of the meeting and usually no one present objected. There was no need for a veto.
7. The following departments were under the direct supervision of the minister:
 - a. Minister's Office (Gabinet Ministra) under a director, name unknown to source, consisted of three sections: organizational, legal, and inspection, and had about eight employees. It was a general executive office which prepared and issued directives and suggested laws and decrees which were later submitted by the Minister of Agriculture to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers or to the Council of State. It issued directives and orders to the departments of the ministry and to the subordinated agencies and dealt with complaints which came to the attention of the ministry.
 - b. Department of Cadres (Departament Kadr) under Director Sobczyk (fnu) with about 10 employees was responsible for the personnel policy in general and the following in particular:
 - (1) Hiring and discharging of all personnel for the ministry and directors and higher employees for the subordinated central establishments.
 - (2) Final evaluation and approval of assignments of medium category employees in the subordinated establishments.
 - (3) Checking the political reliability of all employees, surveying the discipline of work, penalties and awards, and keeping personal records and statistics on all employees.

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- (4) Preparing daily and monthly reports and statistics on personnel in the ministry and all subordinated establishments; these were later sent to the Main Bureau of Statistics.

c. Planning Department (Departament Planowania) under Director Bertold (fnu) with about 20 employees was responsible for general planning, investment planning and reporting, and statistics in connection with the six-year plan. It consisted of several sections, such as planning of independent investments, long term investments, yearly plans, reports and statistics, and the supervision of planning in the subordinate establishments. The planning department cooperated closely with other departments of the ministry and was in fact a central coordinating office which was responsible for methods, time-table planning, and directives in the planning field. In particular the scope of its activities embraced the following:

Planning

- (1) Working out initial general directives which, after approval by the State Economic Planning Commission, were sent to all subordinate establishments as a basis for their drafts of yearly plans concerning credits, production, labor and employment, and wages.
- (2) Analyzing the drafts of financial and industrial plans of subordinated establishments and presenting them to the college at the Ministry of Agriculture.
- (3) Working out the final version of the plan of the Ministry of Agriculture and presenting it to the State Economic Planning Commission and defending it there.
- (4) Accepting the approved plan from the State Economic Planning Commission and distributing the tasks to the subordinated establishments.
- (5) Accepting and assessing suggested changes and amendments to the approved plan and submitting them to the State Economic Planning Commission.

Investments

- (6) Setting up preliminary investment limits (limity inwestycyjne) and initial preliminary funds for all subordinated establishments in cooperation with the State Economic Planning Commission.
- (7) Accepting and assessing all investment plans from subordinate units.
- (8) Working out a final general investment plan for the Ministry of Agriculture and subordinate agencies and submitting it to the State Economic Planning Commission.
- (9) Supervising the implementation of investments and submitting suggestions for the transfer of funds and credits.
- (10) Reporting and statistics on investments.

Reporting

- (11) Supervising the obligatory reporting system (sprawozdawczosc) and checking the incoming daily, monthly, quarterly, and other periodical reports which had to be submitted every ten days.

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(12) Working out summary periodic reports for the Main Bureau of Statistics concerning the fulfillment of the economic plan.

d. Economic Department (Departament Ekonomiczny) under Director Rataj (fnu) had about 10 employees and was divided into three sections. It was a kind of research and suggestion department which studied all the actual problems of agricultural economy, particularly those which suggested conflicts with the established plan. It also submitted recommendations for changes and improvements in the agricultural economic policy and was responsible for evaluating and suggesting changes in prices for agricultural products, machines and spare parts, and payments for services.

8. The 1st Vice-Minister, Czeslaw Domagala, directed and supervised those departments and subordinate establishments which in fulfilling their tasks were most influential in the structural development of agriculture, i.e., those which were instrumental in collectivization. For this reason he was regarded as a political vice-minister. The 1st Vice-Minister supervised the following:

a. Supply Department (Departament Zaopatrzenia) under Director Stanislaw Mochnacki with about 12 employees. It was responsible for the supply of all materials necessary for agriculture, in particular, planning and securing from the State Economic Planning Commission the right of purchase and distributing all materials. This included distributing materials necessary for the construction and repair of buildings, technical materials, spare parts for agricultural machines and tractors, veterinary supplies, insecticides, and the allocation of agricultural machines and motor vehicles. It also organized and supervised the storage and warehouse administration and controlled the yearly consumption and use of raw materials and spare parts for maintenance purposes by establishing yearly norms, for example, five kg. of iron for each tractor, two plow shares for each plow in operation, etc.

b. Mechanization Department (Departament Mechanizacji) under Director Sieradzian (fnu) with about seven employees. It assessed the technical exploitation plans, fixing norms of wear and tear of material and spare parts for subordinate establishments, and was also responsible for the evaluation of the technical performance and value of new types of agricultural machines. It also cooperated with other departments and with the Institute for the Electrification and Mechanization of Agriculture in establishing a yearly balance for the production, import, and distribution of agricultural machines for the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of State Farms, and the Central Agency of Peasant Self-Help Agricultural Cooperatives. It supervised the administration and activities of the following establishments:

- (1) Central Administration of State Machine Centers (Centralny Zarzad Osrodkow Maszynowych - CZPOM)
- (2) Central Administration of Technical Services for Agriculture (Centralny Zarzad Technicznej Obslugi Rolnictwa - CZTOR)
- (3) Central Administration for the Electrification of Agriculture (Centralny Zarzad Elektryfikacji Rolnictwa - CZER)
- (4) Central Agricultural Equipment Supply Office (Centrala Zaopatrzenia Rolnictwa - CZR)

c. Military Department (Departament Wojskowy) under General Wieckowski (fnu) with about six employees was a liaison office between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of National Defense.

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the department was in charge of all matters concerning the use of land and training grounds by the army and probably was concerned with problems connected with the mobilization of horses and vehicles.

9. The 2nd Vice-Minister, Leon Rzendowski, was responsible for economic and financial matters and directly supervised the finance, budgetary, and employment departments as well as the office of the General Director. He also cooperated with the planning and economic departments which were directly subordinated to him.
 - a. General Director (Dyrektor) Ludwik Pool held a position equal to a director of a department and was responsible for the coordination of work of all establishments subordinated to the ministry. He was considered the best qualified economic expert in the Ministry of Agriculture.
 - b. Finance Department (Departament Finansowy) under Director Jan Pawlak had about 22 employees and controlled the financial economy of all subordinate establishments and institutes under the Ministry of Agriculture. His deputy, Vice-Director Dredunski (fnu) supervised the accounting. The finance department was responsible for the following:
 - (1) Analyzing and approving the financial and credit plans of the subordinate establishments and presenting them to the college at the ministry.
 - (2) Presenting the final finance and credit plans of the subordinated establishments to the Ministry of Finance and to the State Economic Planning Commission.
 - (3) Supervising the implementation of the financial and credit plans by the subordinated establishments and assessing applications for changes or amendments in them.
 - (4) Settling accounts of subordinated establishments with the State Treasury.
 - (5) Supervising the bookkeeping of the subordinate establishments and analyzing their periodic and yearly balance sheets.
 - c. Employment and Wages Department (Departament Zatrudnienia i Plac) under Director Krzak (fnu) had about 12 employees and supervised the implementation of employment and wage policies according to established plans. It was responsible for the following:
 - (1) Working out the collective labor agreements, salary and wage scales, and premiums for all employees of the subordinated establishments and securing the approval of the State Economic Planning Commission for these.
 - (2) Supervising the drawing-up of employment and wage plans by the subordinated establishments.
 - (3) Drafting final, comprehensive employment and wages plans for the Ministry of Agriculture and subordinated establishments. The latter operated on a quasi profit and loss basis (na rozrachunku gospodarczym).
 - (4) Controlling the implementation of employment and wages plans and enforcing strict adherence to it.
 - (5) Supervising the limits and amounts of premiums paid to employees of the subordinate establishments.

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(6) Administering the special funds (fundusz bezosobowy) of the Ministry of Agriculture from which prizes, special rewards, payments for special work, and funds spent at the discretion of the directors of the subordinated establishments were paid.

(7) Keeping records and statistics of employment and submitting periodical reports on these.

d. Budget and Administrative Department (Departament Budżetowo-Gospodarczy) under Director Nalczyński (fnu) had about 50 employees and was responsible for the budget and administrative expenses of the Ministry of Agriculture itself and supervised all the budgets of the subordinated establishments. In particular, the department was responsible for the following:

(1) Accepting and assessing all budget plans of the subordinated establishments. It checked all authorizations and controlled expenditures by establishing norms, e.g., norms for strictly administrative expenses and norms for transport vehicles (required mileage, repair and maintenance, etc.). It also controlled the table of organization from the standpoint of the budget, expenditures for repair and maintenance of buildings from budgetary funds, and submitted and settled all budgetary accounts with the Finance Ministry for all subordinated establishments and for the ministry itself.

(2) The department was also responsible for the internal administration of the Ministry of Agriculture including transportation, general office and stationery supplies and expenses, etc. It was in charge of all auxiliary personnel and typing pools, reproduction and printing, and paid the salaries of all employees of the Ministry of Agriculture.

10. The 3rd Vice-Minister, Dr. Mieczysław Czaja, was responsible for the general sowing policy and the production of grain and livestock. He also directed the seasonal transfer and allocation of agricultural workers and machines from one voivodship to another. He controlled and supervised the following establishments including two ministry departments:

a. Central Sales Office for Seeds (Centrala Nasienna - CNO)

b. Central Sales Office for Breeding Animals (Centrala Obrotu Zwierzętami Hodowlanymi - COZH)

c. Central Sales Office for Garden Seeds and Nurseries (Centrala Nasiennictwa Ogrodniczego i Szkolnarskiego - CNOS)

d. Central Administration of Land Drainage (Centralny Zarząd Melioracji Wodnych - CZMW)

e. Central Administration of Veterinary Services (Centralny Zarząd Weterynaryjny - CZWet)

f. Department of Agricultural Crops (Departament Produkcji Roslinnej) was mainly responsible for developing a national sowing plan and supervising its implementation. In particular it had the following functions:

(1) Coordination with the Ministry of State Farms.

(2) Issuing direct orders to the subordinated Agricultural Machine Centers, to agricultural cooperatives, and to private farmers who made contracts with POMS.

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- (3) Issuing directives concerning the distribution of grain seeds and seedlings.
 - (4) Working out drafts of governmental directives concerning coordination of seasonal agricultural work (sowing, harvesting, threshing), and supervising their execution.
 - (5) Issuing directives to the departments of agriculture and forestry of the voivodship national councils.
 - (6) Supervising the production and coordinating the delivery and price of grain in cooperation with the Ministry of Purchase.
 - (7) Directing the combat of field plant pests and insects.
 - (8) Supervising the classification of land according to the evaluation placed on the soil.
 - (9) Keeping records and preparing periodic reports on agricultural production for the State Economic Planning Commission, the Main Statistic Bureau, and the Ministry of Purchase.
- g. Department of Livestock (Departament Produkcji Zwierzeczej) was responsible for working out the national plan for the production of breeding livestock and supervising its implementation. In particular, its functions included the following:
- (1) Coordinating with the Ministry of State Farms.
 - (2) Directing the supply and distribution of qualified breeding livestock through the subordinated Central Sales Office for Breeding Animals.
 - (3) Issuing directives to the departments of agriculture of the voivodship national councils.
 - (4) Supervising the breeding and coordinating the delivery and prices of livestock in cooperation with the Ministry of Purchase.
 - (5) Directing the Veterinary Services and control of animal diseases through the subordinated Central Supply Office for Veterinary and Zootechnical Materials. (Centrala Zaopatrzenia Weterynaryjno - Zootechnicznego - CZWetZ) and the Central Administration of Veterinary Services (Centralny Zarzad Weterynarji - CZWet).
 - (6) Keeping records and preparing periodic reports about its activities.
11. The 4th Vice Minister, Marian Jaworski, was a new man in the ministry who supervised the education and vocational agricultural training through the department under his direction, the Department of Vocational Training (Departament Szkolenia Zawodowego), which directed the vocational training of agricultural specialists and employees. In particular its functions were as follows:
- a. Working out plans to determine the number of qualified personnel required for agriculture and attempting to train them by the following means.
- (1) Cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education and Science in matters concerning the education of sufficient numbers of agricultural cadres of all categories, such as agronomists and engineers specialized in breeding, soil drainage and research work, etc.

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- (2) Organizing and supervising vocational training in schools and courses for tractor drivers and mechanics operated by the department.
- (3) Organizing improvement courses (kursy dokształcające) for administrative personnel and specialists employed in agriculture, such as agronomists, mechanics, technicians, and specialists in breeding livestock, husbandry, nurseries, planning, and bookkeeping.

b. Keeping records and preparing periodic reports concerning vocational training.

12. The following is a fuller description of the establishments and institutes directly subordinate to the Ministry of Agriculture.¹ (For subordination by Department and vice-minister see paras. 7-11, this report.)

a. Establishments:

- (1) Central Sales Office for Seeds (Centrala Nasienna - CN) located in Warsaw at 11 a Warecka Street. It was a commercial establishment in charge of supplies of grain seeds. The main producers were the State Farms.
- (2) Central Sales Office for Garden Seeds and Nurseries (Centrala Nasiennictwa Ogrodniczego i Szolkarskiego - CNOS) located in Warsaw at 3/5 Reja Street. It was a commercial establishment, in charge of supplies of garden seeds and seedlings for agriculture.
- (3) Central Sales Office for Breeding Animals (Centrala Obrotu Zwierzatami Hodowlanymi - COZH) located in Warsaw at 44 Piekna Street. It was a commercial establishment which supplied breeding stock including horses, cows, pigs, sheep, and poultry.
- (4) Central Agricultural Equipment Supply Office (Centrala Zaopatrzenia Rolnictwa - CZR) located in Warsaw at 37 Krucza Street. It was a central agency in charge of the procurement and distribution of tractors, agricultural machines, machine parts, and other equipment for the establishments of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of State Farms, and other ministries.
- (5) Central Supply Office for Veterinary and Zootechnical Materials (Centrala Zaopatrzenia Weterynaryjno-Zootechnicznego - CZWetZ) located in Warsaw at 44 Piekna Street. It was in charge of supplies of veterinary medicaments and equipment.
- (6) Central Designing Bureau for Rural Construction (Centralne Biuro Projektow Budownictwa Wiejskiego - CBPBW) located in Warsaw at 44 Piekna Street. It was a service establishment which designed agricultural buildings for the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of State Farms, and the Cooperatives. No further information.
- (7) Central Administration for the Electrification of Agriculture (Centralny Zarzad Elektryfikacji Rolnictwa - CZER) located in Warsaw at 40 Nowogrodzka Street. It was concerned with bringing electricity to villages and State Farms.
- (8) Central Administration of State Machine Centers (Centralny Zarzad Panstwowych Osrodkow Maszynowych - CZPOM) located in Warsaw at 55 Krakowskie Przedmiescie. It was a service establishment and a most important political and technical agency organized to provide help for the cultivation of all land, except State farms, and for the development of farming cooperatives. It controlled

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about 420 State Machine Centers (POM), about 3,000 village machine centers (GOM), and employed about 40,000 administrative and technical personnel.

- (9) Central Administration for Vocational Training of Cadres (Centralny Zarzad Szkolenia Kadr - CZSK) located in Warsaw at 37 Krucza Street. It organized vocational training of administrative and technical personnel in cooperation with the voivodship national councils. It was probably under the 4th vice-minister.
- (10) Central Administration of Technical Services for Agriculture (Centralny Zarzad Technicznej Obslugi Rolnictwa - CZTOR) located in Warsaw at 7 Starynkiewicza Square. It was responsible for the production of spare parts for tractors and all agricultural machines and for capital repairs on agricultural machinery. It controlled about ten factories producing spare parts.
- (11) Central Administration of Veterinary Services (Centralny Zarzad Weterynaryj - CZWet) located in Warsaw at 30 Wspolna Street. It controlled the veterinary services all over the country.
- (12) Central Administration for Land Drainage (Centralny Zarzad Wodnych Melioracji - CZWM) in Warsaw at 30 Wspolna Street. It worked out plans and supervised the improvement of land through soil draining and irrigation.
- (13) State Establishment for Horse Races (Panstwowe Przedsiębiorstwo Wyciagi Konne - PPWK) located in Warsaw-Sluzewiec. It organized horse races all over the country and promoted the breeding of high class race horses. It was probably under the 3rd vice-minister.

b. Institutes

Under the Ministry of Agriculture there were several agricultural research institutes which carried on scientific research in all fields of agriculture. Most of these institutes had large estates and research stations.

- (1) Central Agricultural Institute (Centralny Instytut Rolniczy) located in Warsaw at 7 Gorskiego Street. It controlled the administration of all agricultural research institutes. [redacted] no further information. 50X1
- (2) Institute for the Electrification and Mechanisation of Agriculture (Instytut Elektryfikacji i Mechanizacji Rolnictwa) located in Warsaw at 8 Rakowiecka Street. It studied the methods of technical production, developed prototypes of tractors, agricultural machines, and equipment, and evaluated agricultural machinery.
- (3) Institute for Husbandry, Manuring and Soil Science (Instytut Uprawy, Nawożenia i Gleboznawstwa). It supervised the research stations and studied methods of husbandry, rotation of crops, and manuring.
- (4) Institute of Agricultural Economics (Instytut Ekonomiki Rolnej) located in Warsaw at 47 Kasimierska Street. [redacted] 50X1
- (5) Institute for the Experimental Cultivation and Acclimatization of Plants (Instytut Hodowli i Aklimatyzacji Roslin) located in Warsaw at 7 Gorskiego Street which did research on the cultivation of plants. [redacted] 50X1

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- (6) Institute for the Drainage and Reclamation of Land (Instytut Melioracji i Uzytkow Zielonych) located in Warsaw at 50 Nowogrodzka Street. It conducted research on methods of draining and improving poor land.
- (7) Institute for the Protection of Plants (Instytut Ochrony Roslin) located in Warsaw at 7 Gorskigo and 8 Rakowiecka Street. It carried out research on methods for combating plant pests and insects. [redacted] 50X1
- (8) Institute for Inland Fish Breeding (Instytut Rybactwa Srodladowego) located in Warsaw at 8 Rakowiecka Street. It did studies and research on stocking rivers and lakes with fry.
- (9) Veterinarian Institute (Instytut Weterynaryjny) located in Warsaw at 52/54 Wawelska Street. It carried out veterinary research on animal health, diseases, vaccines, sera, and equipment. [redacted] 50X1
- (10) State Agricultural and Forestry Publications (Panstwowe Wydawnictwo Rolnicze i Lesne) located in Warsaw at 7 Gorskigo Street. It was the former State Institute for Agricultural and Forestry Publications and published all official instructions, guide books, leaflets, and periodicals in its own printing shop.

13. In agricultural matters the Ministry of Agriculture also supervised the lower governmental executive authorities, that is, the presidiums of the voivodship national councils and the county and village national councils. The voivodship departments and county sections of agriculture and forestry were strictly administrative offices which supervised and coordinated all matters concerning agriculture in their areas on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of State Farms, and other ministries concerned. They received all the necessary help from the provincial, county, and rural branches of the establishments subordinated directly to the ministries. Source had no further information on the organization and activities of the voivodship and county departments and sections than the following:
- a. Each presidium of a voivodship national council controlled the following:
 - (1) Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Wydzial Rolnictwa i Lesnictwa).
 - (2) The Voivodship Administration of Veterinarian Services (Wojewodski Zarzad Weterynaryjny).
 - (3) The Voivodship Administration of Land Drainage (Wojewodski Zarzad Wodnych Melioracji).
 - b. Each presidium of a county national council controlled the following:
 - (1) Agricultural and Forestry Section (Wydzial Rolnictwa i Lesnictwa).
 - (2) County Administration of Veterinary Service.
 - (3) County Administration of Land Drainage.
 - c. Presidiums of village national councils were mainly concerned with agricultural matters and did not have any special sections for them.
14. The Ministry of Agriculture itself employed between 250 and 300 employees. About 50 per cent of them had university educations or experience in agricultural establishments. In previous years, up to 1951-1952, almost all

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who were regarded as politically unreliable were discharged from the ministry or transferred to rural areas, except for a few specialists who were difficult to replace. Almost all directors of departments, higher officials, and many of the auxiliary personnel were members of the Polish United Workers Party (PZPR). They belonged to the basic party organization (POP) and to the trade unions

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Relations among employees in the ministry were good in general and unrestrained in comparison with the other ministries.

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15. Cooperation among the different departments within the ministry and the establishments subordinated to it was also good; however, it was always easier and much quicker to work through personal contacts rather than official channels. The efficiency of some departments was rather unsatisfactory, mainly because of a lack of experienced specialists especially in technical matters. The most prominent among the high officials were Vice-Minister Rzedowski, an authority in economic matters and a very good organizer, and Vice-Minister Dr. Czaja, regarded as an experienced agronomist. The political vice-minister, Domagala, a former barber, did not possess the necessary education and experience in agriculture. He was, however, an energetic, clever man who was in the confidence of the Central Committee of the PZPR. On the whole, little initiative was forthcoming from the ministry. Many directives, most of the planning, balance sheets, price lists, etc. were based on drafts and plans worked out by the subordinated establishments and institutes.
16. Most of the out-going correspondence was signed by the department directors, excepting laws and general directives which were signed by the minister. General correspondence, official orders, and directives issued by the ministry concerning such nation-wide actions as sowing campaigns, harvesting, and the maintenance of agricultural machines, were classified "for official use only" (tylko do uzytku sluzbowego). Matters concerning organization, personnel records, discharge papers, awards, punishment, and investigations were classified as confidential (poufne). All economic plans, minutes of the college meetings or extracts from them, and all requirements and orders for agricultural machines and equipment from the Ministry of Public Security and Ministry of National Defense were classified as secret (tajne). Secret documents and correspondence were kept in safes and issued daily on receipt to the officials who needed them for their work. It was forbidden to take any official paper from the ministry except in cases of official inspection tours or investigation.
17. One had the impression that the ministry was not a directing executive but an intermediary authority. the Ministry of Agriculture was regarded by the State Economic Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry as less efficient and slower than other ministries. The administration and work of the establishments and some institutes subordinated to the ministry were not well organized. None of the subordinated establishments was able to work out and submit a reliable balance sheet at the proper time. The bookkeeping and inventory was in arrears and unsatisfactory. The result was that planning and decisions on important, sometimes long range, problems were based upon provisional balance sheets and reports, and mistakes and deficiencies often occurred.
18. The activity and influence of the Ministry of Agriculture was limited from the very beginning of its existence. On the national policy level, the ministry did not have enough influence on the distribution of man-power, resettlement of peasants, production of agricultural machines, and other essential problems vital to agriculture. The ministry was restricted in its activities by the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party (KCPZPR), and was not permitted to develop any independent economic policy.

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Up to December 1954, about 80 per cent of cultivated land was owned by private farmers who were still to some extent independent and were not blindly following the orders and directives of the ministry. [redacted] the following is an approximate breakdown of total available arable lands.

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About 2,000,000 hectares were administered by state farms
About 1,000,000 hectares were administered by social cooperatives.
About 13,000,000 hectares were owned by private farmers.

19. The six-year plan provided only general directives for collectivization, and, [redacted] nobody at the ministry had any crystalized view or program for the pace at which it should be carried out. In fulfilling its tasks, the ministry and its departments worked stage by stage from one KCPZPR directive to the next; the directives were not always consistent. The main effort of the ministry was concentrated on the development and strengthening of those establishments and programs which were helpful in accelerating the development of a collective economy. Funds, credits, machinery, and material were generously supplied for this purpose. For example, the existing state machine centers were capable of doing the necessary agricultural work for an area of land twice as big as that possessed by the existing collective cooperatives. The state farms also had much more agricultural machinery than they needed. On the other hand, very little machinery was provided by the ministry for private, individual farmers. Under these circumstances no proper development of agriculture could be expected.

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20. Working hours at the ministry were 0830 to 1530 during the summer months and 0900 to 1600 including Saturday during the winter. Most of the higher officials worked after office hours periodically. As a rule, all college meetings were held after office hours and often late at night.

21. All employees of the ministry and some higher officials from subordinated establishments had permanent passes which, together with the employment identity card, were sufficient for entrance into the ministry building. The visitors had to obtain a pass from the Visitors' Office which was located in a small temporary building opposite the ministry at Zurawia Street. The building of the Ministry of Agriculture was not guarded by a special guard. A janitor checked all incoming and outgoing persons and collected passes from the visitors when they left. The department visited had to sign the passes indicating the time of the visit. It was easy to obtain a pass for an outside visitor. There were always several peasants who came to the ministry from the country to submit some applications personally. They were often received by the minister himself.

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Organizational Chart of the Ministry of Agriculture with Subordinate Establishments, Institutes, and Agencies

